

Beth Am COMMENTATOR

Edward And Barbara

Raduns Honored By

Committee Of 100

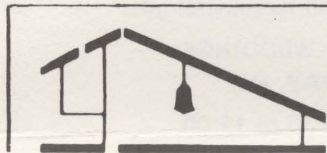


At its annual meeting held in May, The Committee of 100 of Beth Am presented its first "Family of the Year" award to Edward and Barbara Raduns. The Raduns family initiated the committee almost ten years ago by becoming the first family to contribute \$1,000 to the Temple's operating fund (Fair Share dues). Since then, 62 other families have joined the Raduns.

Allen Abelson, chairman of Fair Share, is striving to reach the goal of 100 members for the year which starts July 1, 1975.

The Committee of 100 is an honorary group that does no actual business, save through its giving. It meets once a year at a reception which is primarily social in nature. Effective with the granting of this award to the Raduns, the committee will make an award each year to the most deserving family in its midst.

With the soaring of costs, due to the inflationary spiral, Beth Am has been able to meet its obligations solely through the help of those families which recognize the crisis and give in the kind of dimension which is characteristic of the Committee of 100.



The Committee Of 100

The following member families have voluntarily rejoined the Committee of 100 for the 1975-76 year.

Allen and Barbara Abelson
Dr. Morton and Evelyn Axler
David and Sydell Berman
Jordan and Judith Bittel
Harold and June Brown

Stephen and Anna Carner
Alvin and Estelle Corenblum
Howard and Dolores Engel
Morris and Mikki Futernick
Saul and Barbara Genet

(Continued on Page 3)

How Much Money Should I Send Temple? Emotion And Reason Is The Answer

So many of our members ask questions like, "How much money should I really send the Temple?" We have tried to give guides to our members for Fair Share giving, varying from \$400 for those with less than \$15,000 income to \$1,000 and over for those earning \$35,000 and up. Unless our more affluent members give relatively as much, according to their means, as do our less affluent members, we cannot meet our debts and obligations.

WE DON'T HAVE CHILDREN IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Some of our more affluent members do not have children in the school, so they conclude that their need to give is reduced. The Temple can't make it this way, for the older families whose children are out of school are generally more secure financially, and it is precisely they who ought to give more freely. We should remember that the training of the next generation of Jews is a religious duty incumbent on every one of us.

WE HARDLY EVER USE THE TEMPLE FACILITIES

From time to time, we get complaints from people that they really ought not to have to pay the full cost of Temple membership because they attend services only once or twice a year, or they are interested only in the religious school, or they avail themselves sparingly of some other function of the congregation. They feel that they should not be put on the same basis as those who draw upon the facilities of the Temple more extensively.

These people seem to think of the Temple in terms of a theatre. You just buy a ticket for a single performance. For one thing, our program has to go on all the year around. We have to be open and functioning every Sabbath all year long.

When all is said and done, the Temple serves not only as a house of worship a few times a year. It is a Rabbi who names your baby; conducts your Bar Mitzvah; marries your children; conducts memorial services; counsels the needy; makes hospital visitations, etc. It is a Religious and Hebrew School; it is a meeting place; it is a center for raising funds for Israel Bonds; it is a place for Brotherhood, Sisterhood, BAFTY, singles groups, social action, Passover Seders, festivals, and many other purposes.

This is the message that we must remember. A Synagogue is a service organization. We are trying to preserve and prosper Judaism. The question a member should ask himself is not "How much is my family getting out of this?", but "HOW BADLY IS MY HELP NEEDED?"

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
8:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Henry Le Clair
Cantorial Soloist

RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGARD

'Wisdom For Our Time'

A Review of "Sayings of the Fathers."

SATURDAY, JUNE 14
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



THE ENCOUNTER, an avant-garde Israeli play (in English), will be performed by Cindy Gold and Company after services, June 13, in the Social Hall.



Basic Jewish Ideas

While Judaism is the evolving and changing religious expression of the Jewish people, Jews have always believed a basic core in all ages. Certainly, the core of our belief as understood by Reform Judaism is as follows:

1. GOD IS ONE--that is, there is one plan and purpose for the universe; there are no conflicting wills; no good god competing with a devil; nor are there greater and lesser gods or divine beings.

2. THE NATURE OF THIS GOD IS TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN TERMS OF CREATION, LAW, JUSTICE, MERCY, FORGIVENESS, LOVE--that is, He is not blind force, acting on sudden whim, nor is He angry and punitive (this understanding of the nature of God evolved over thousands of years and is open to new insights). God is not to be understood in terms of human powers or definitions and is beyond man's full comprehension.

3. THERE IS A TORAH, A MORAL LAW, UNDERGIRDING THE UNIVERSE, AND MAN'S HAPPINESS AND THE STABILITY OF SOCIETY DEPEND ON THE LEARNING AND OBSERVANCE OF THIS LAW.

4. A MAN'S RELIGIOSITY IS TO BE DEDUCED FROM HIS ACTIONS, NOT FROM HIS STATED BELIEFS. (CONDUCT, NOT PROFESSED FAITH, IS THE CRITICAL MATTER).

5. MAN IS BORN WITH THE POTENTIAL TO BE GOOD OR EVIL DEPENDING UPON HIS OWN CHOICE TO FOLLOW THE MORAL LAW. He is not born in "original sin," nor need he be mystically or miraculously "saved" from this "sin." Hence, the notion of the growth and improvement in the character of man by creating the good society becomes possible.

6. THIS WORLD IS THE CENTER OF MAN'S EXISTENCE. Whatever the "world to come" may be, man must correct the evil in this world. "It is not incumbent upon him to finish the task, but neither is he free to neglect it."

7. MEN MUST STRIVE TOWARDS A MESSIANIC DAY, WHEN ALL MEN SHALL LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY. There is a meaningful future ahead which men must strive to achieve with God's help. There is a part of the Messiah in all of us, and we must bring the pieces together to create "God's Kingdom."

8. MAN IS A CO-PARTNER WITH GOD IN THE CREATION THAT KNOWS NO END. God frequently relies on man to serve as His agent, and man must understand his responsibility. "Where there are no men . . . be thou the man."

9. JEWS ARE BOUND TO GOD IN A SPECIAL COVENANT OR AGREEMENT. Since they were the first to proclaim the idea of one God and one mankind, since they were the first to proclaim the moral law, they have a special responsibility to be exemplary in character and to teach these ideas, by example, to the world.

Youth Program Closes For Summer

After a very successful year, the youth program has suspended its activities for the summer months. Before closing the Saturday afternoon basketball activity, there was a one-on-one basketball tournament which was held on May 18 in the new gym. The winners were Ross Seidler for the 13 and under division, and Steve Schwartzman for the 16 and under.

The staff wishes everyone a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing our Temple youth in the fall.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Get well wishes to Peter Swartz, Sheryl Trainor who have been hospitalized recently. . . . Kudos to Jay, son of Morgan and Kev Levy, who has been elected to National Honor Society at Coral Park and will attend Cornell University's summer school program. . . . Kudos to Elliot, son of Dr. Allen and Joanne Katz, and Natalie, daughter of Ira and Estelle Segal, who have become one of the five finalists for the National Federation of Temple Youth song contest for original words and music. . . . Marilyn, daughter of Norman and Arlene Solomon, has been elected president of H.I.C. group of Hadassah. Daughter, Sharon, has just announced her engagement to Andrew Lieber and will be married this summer.

Mazel to Lynn and Robert Bernstein upon the birth of their daughter, Michelle. . . . Get well wishes to Michael Tucker, Marion Katzin, Cindy Wolf, Barbara Hammerschmidt, Lisa Young and Gregory Salking. . . . David, son of Ken and Sheila Hellman, was awarded the Ner Tamid Scout award. He is a member of Beth Am's sponsored Troop No. 502. Father, Ken, is also a Ner Tamid winner. That's keeping it in the family. . . . Glad to hear that Wendy Schwartz and Kathy Raduns have been chosen cheerleaders at Palmetto Senior High. . . . It's that time of the year. Be sure to reregister for membership and register your kids for Religious and Hebrew schools as quickly as possible. Remember, everyone is registered on a first-come, first-served basis. Our office is busy with applications. Have you sent yours? And, when you do, put in a few extra bucks. Keep our Temple green!

BUY ISRAEL AT

SISTERHOOD'S JUDAICA SHOP

for all your beautiful and meaningful gifts

CONFIRMATION WEDDINGS

FATHER'S DAY, etc.

Hours: Monday, 9:30 til 12:00

Friday, during Oneg Shabot

Bnai Mitzvah

Friday, June 13
8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 14
11:15 a.m.



Andria, daughter of
Dr. and Mrs. Irwin Gotbaum
Sharon, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Terr



Jeffrey, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Falick
Matthew, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Leibert

